

OFFICIAL GUIDE TO THE CITY

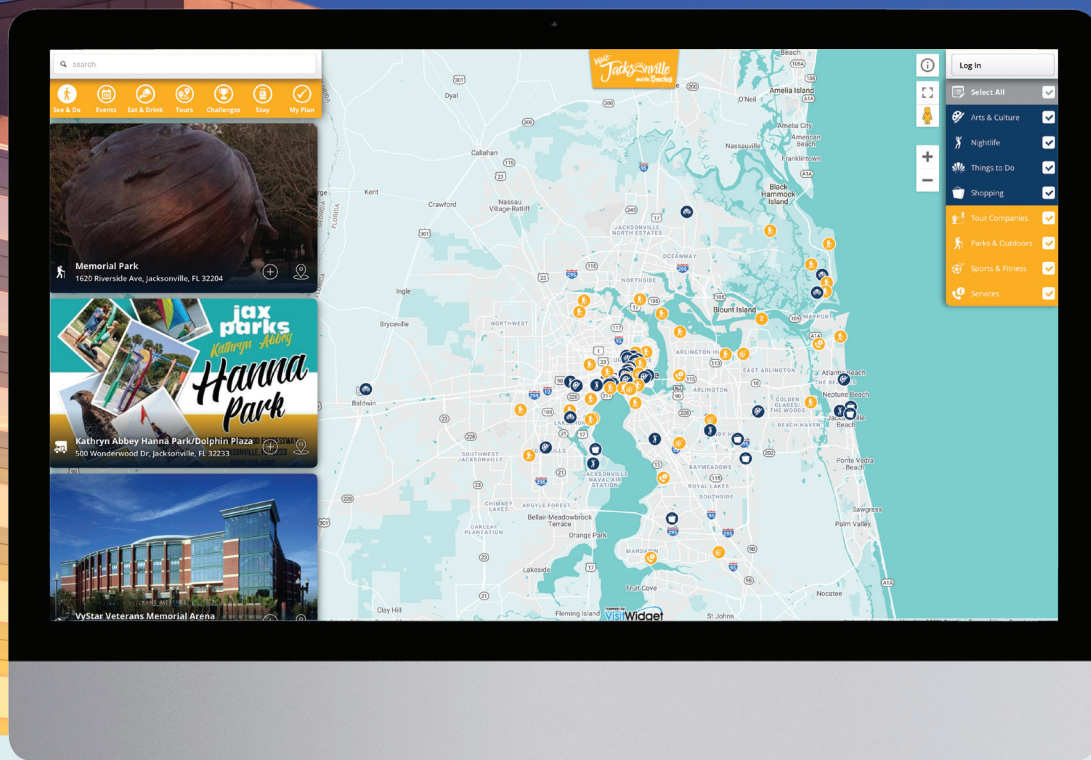
JACKSONVILLE

V I S I T O R M A G A Z I N E



visit
Jacksonville
and the Beaches

visitjacksonville.com



VISIT JAX TRIP PLANNER

Create your own custom itinerary by adding events, things to do, restaurants, and tours to your plan on our website Trip Planner. Then, once you are ready to visit, it will map out the best route to experience your selections and your plan will show up right in the Visit Jax app on your phone.



DOWNLOAD THE VISIT JAX OFFICIAL APP BEFORE YOU ARRIVE!

The App includes: Event Calendar, Self-Guided Tours, Audio Tours, Augmented Reality and local things to do! Use the Trip Planner feature on your computer to plan before you arrive and save in the app.



Welcome to Jacksonville!

Whether you're already in town, or planning your next trip, I am excited to welcome you to this dynamic city. As a lifelong Jacksonville resident, I know first-hand how much there is to see and do throughout the 840-plus square miles that make Jacksonville the largest area by landmass in the continental United States.

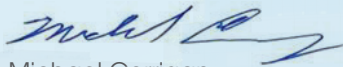
If you love the outdoors, you'll fit right in here. From our welcoming beach communities to more than 400 city parks, seven state parks and two national parks, each with its own unique hiking, biking, kayaking, horseback riding or fishing spots, there is plenty to explore.

Art is not just in museums in Jacksonville. It's easy to immerse yourself in our artistic culture by spotting our vibrant street art, touring a local gallery and enjoying one of our many outdoor festivals and events.

When it comes to our food scene "locally sourced" is more than a trend with menus throughout town filled with ingredients grown here. We're home to restaurants ranked top in the state by Southern Living magazine and Yelp, as well as award-winning chefs who've mastered a wide-variety of cuisines. And don't forget the beer. Jacksonville has more than 25 local breweries on the Jax Ale Trail. Be sure to get your Ale Trail passport for a chance to collect a unique souvenir from your trip.

Looking for more information? Head to visitjacksonville.com. Enjoy your visit, and we hope to welcome you here for many years to come.

Sincerely,



Michael Corrigan
President & CEO, Visit Jacksonville



On behalf of our Tourist Development Council, I welcome you to the largest city in the continental United States - Jacksonville, Florida. Whether you are here for business or leisure, to soak up some sun, or meet with business associates, I trust your trip will be one to remember.

As President of our City Council, I am proud of our city and all it has to offer to those who travel here. Each of our unique, diverse neighborhoods offers its own Florida flare with southern hospitality. If you're looking for coastal cuisine like our signature Mayport shrimp, public art that adorns hundreds of buildings throughout the area, hiking and biking trails to explore the beauty of our outdoors, or to catch a game in our sports complex, then Jacksonville is your place to visit!

Once you're in town, I encourage you to stop by one of our Visitor Centers, located at Jacksonville International Airport near baggage claim, in Downtown Jacksonville, and at the Beaches Museum in Jacksonville Beach. I hope this Visitor Magazine helps you discover all our city has to offer. Thank you for choosing Jacksonville as your destination.

Sincerely -



Terrance Freeman
Chairman
Duval County Tourist Development Council



JACKSONVILLE HITS ALL THE CHECKMARKS ON YOUR FLORIDA TRAVEL BUCKET LIST!

- ★ Fun beaches - ✓
- ★ Outdoor adventures - ✓
- ★ Delicious local food - ✓
- ★ Craft beer - ✓
- ★ Exciting sporting events - ✓
- ★ World-class golf courses - ✓
- ★ Eclectic neighborhoods to explore - ✓
- ★ Top rated family attractions - ✓
- ★ Affordable accommodations - ✓

Looking for a getaway that's equal parts fun and relaxing while also being one of the best value destinations in the world? You will find it in Jax!

Jacksonville, or Jax as locals call it, is the perfect destination to get lost in nature, explore the outdoors and recharge. Let our 840 plus square miles become your playground. Here, you can connect to nature by exploring uncrowded beaches, visiting remote preserves, hiking our extensive park system and going on a boat ride, we have more waterways than any other Florida city!

The sunrises over Jax will easily be your most photographic memory - no filter needed. Once the sun's up, walk down the 22 miles of beaches, where it's always easy to find a place to lay your towel and even easier to find a parking spot. You Shouldn't leave Jax without taking a surfing lesson or renting a board for a day on the waves. Jax is one of the best surfing destinations in Florida.

Want more water fun? The St. Johns River and Intracoastal Waterway are great for boating, kayaking, and paddle boarding! We even have 30 offshore reefs, perfect for diving and fishing. Plus, with the largest urban park system in the country, you will never be more than 15 minutes away from a great hike, a fun bike ride or a run with incredible views.

Jax is also a culturally rich city with historic architecture, world-class museums, vibrant street art, one of Florida's best craft beer scenes, a creative local food scene, and thrilling sporting events. Plus, we host more than 20 outdoor festivals and events throughout the year including the Jacksonville Jazz Festival, PorchFest, the GATE River Run, Springing the Blues, Jaguars games and so much more.

In a world where health and safety have quickly become a priority on a global scale, our commitment to keeping visitors safe can be seen across our hospitality industry with enhanced cleanliness and occupancy standards in restaurants, attractions and shops. Your well being is our top priority. **So, let Jacksonville lift the weight off your shoulders and replace it with the vacation memories you crave - smiles, laughter, fun and sun.**

GET SOCIAL WITH US:



Visit Jacksonville



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Visit Jacksonville



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Don't forget to tag us: **#OnlyinJax**

#OnlyinJax

Jacksonville is the **largest city** by landmass in the continental United States (over 840 square miles).

It has the youngest population in the state of Florida (**median age: 36**).

Has the **largest urban park system** in the nation with 400+ City Parks, 7 State Parks and 2 National Parks.

Is home to **more shoreline** than any other Florida city!

The Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve has **46,000 acres of unspoiled coastal wetlands** and 6,000 years of human history.

The African American anthem "Lift Every Voice and Sing" was composed here. In the **1930's**, Jacksonville was known as **"The Harlem of the South."**

Is the **birthplace of Southern Rock**. Legendary rockers Lynyrd Skynyrd, Molly Hatchet, .38 Special and JJ Grey & Mofro are native sons. The Allman Brothers Band was also formed here.

Jacksonville's **Alhambra Theatre** is the longest-running professional dinner theater in the nation.

Kona Skate Park, in Jacksonville's Arlington neighborhood, is the **world's oldest operating skate park**.

Theatre Jacksonville, in the San Marco neighborhood, is Florida's longest running community theatre.

The **Riverside Avondale** neighborhood is one of the **largest National Historic Districts** in the United States.

The TaxSlayer Gator Bowl game, held since 1946, was the **first college bowl** ever televised.





MUST-DO

HERE ARE A FEW MUST-DO EXPERIENCES YOU JUST CAN'T MISS When we tell you "there is so much to do in Jax" we are not messing around. Jacksonville has beaches, parks, nature trails, amazing food, delicious craft beer, top notch museums, historic neighborhoods... the list goes on and on. And while we want you to do it all during your visit, there are a few MUST-DO experiences you just can't miss!

Here are our 19 experiences you can't leave Jacksonville without trying:

1. Riding the **St. John River Taxi Tours**- it's not just for transportation, it's the best and most affordable way to see Jacksonville from the water -and one of the prettiest ways too!
2. Visiting one of our **museums**. From the history of the beaches, to our city history, African American history, to ancient art, we have it all!
3. Following the **Jax Ale Trail** and having a beer at one of our hometown craft breweries.
4. Eating some **Mayport Shrimp**, they catch it off our coast in the historic Mayport Village.
5. Exploring **Black Rock Beach** or any one of our over 400 national, state and city parks.
6. Eating a big breakfast - We love the original locations of **Maple Street Biscuit Company** and **Metro Diner**, but there are so many more AMAZING breakfast spots!
7. Enjoying the waves and learning to **surf or paddleboard**.
8. Watching the sunrise along our 22 miles of beaches. **Boneyard Beach** in **Big Talbot Island** is a must for the perfect sunrise pic!
9. Touring our **historic neighborhoods** - Riverside Avondale, San Marco, Springfield and Murray Hill.



10. Checking out the awesome **public art scene** – there are murals and sculptures everywhere you look in Downtown Jax.
11. Taking a photo of the skyline from the **Southbank Riverwalk**.
12. Getting your sweet on at **Sweet Pete's** or **Peterbrooke Chocolate**.
13. Going for a sunset stroll down the **Riverwalk** in Downtown and spotting dolphins and manatees.
14. Enjoying a cocktail at one of our **rooftop bars** overlooking the river or the ocean.
15. Visiting **Congaree & Penn** to take a tour and take a tour of the farm. Check their website for tour schedule.

16. **Golfing** – Jacksonville and its surrounding areas boast world-class golf courses for every level of play in beautiful ocean-side and riverfront settings. It's easy to golf here!
17. **Catching a game** – Jacksonville Jaguars, Giants, Jumbo Shrimp, Iceman, Sharks or Axemen.
18. Visiting an animal attraction- **The Jacksonville Zoo & Gardens** and **The Catty Shack Ranch Wildlife Sanctuary**.
19. Shopping local at **Riverside Arts Market** on Saturdays from 10am-3pm or at one of the monthly art walks and pop-ups you can find throughout Jacksonville.

Still have more time? Then head to our **Things To Do** section to experience more Jax!



JACKSONVILLE

VISITOR MAGAZINE

Jacksonville Visitor Magazine is a publication of Visit Jacksonville

**Visit Jacksonville,
President and CEO Michael Corrigan**

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Visit Jacksonville
100 N. Laura St, Suite 120
Jacksonville, Florida 32202
(904) 798-9111
(800) 733-2668
VisitJacksonville.com

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Chairman Terrance Freeman**

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Dalton Agency
140 West Monroe Street
Jacksonville, Florida, 32202
(904) 398-5222 daltonagency.com

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1	WELCOME
2	#ONLYINJAX
4	MUST-DO
8	PICTURE PERFECT
10	GETTING AROUND
11	NEIGHBORHOODS OVERVIEW
12	BEACHES DOWNTOWN
14	RIVERSIDE AVONDALE MURRAY HILL
16	SAN MARCO SPRINGFIELD
18	ORTEGA & THE WESTSIDE THE SOUTHSIDE
20	MANDARIN THE NORTHSIDE
22	ARLINGTON RAIL YARD DISTRICT
24	THINGS TO DO
28	OUTDOOR NATURE
30	BEACHES & WATERWAYS
32	A1A ISLAND TRAIL FISHING IN JAX
34	ARTS & CULTURE
36	HISTORY
38	DIVERSE PLACES
39	MEDICAL TOURISM
40	SPORTS IN JAX
42	TOP EVENTS
43	WEEKLY/MONTHLY EVENTS
44	GOLF
45	SHOPPING
46	MEETINGS
48	WHERE TO STAY
49	GETTING HERE
50	DINING
52	NIGHTLIFE
54	MAP
56	ACCESSIBLE JACKSONVILLE
57	VISITOR CENTERS

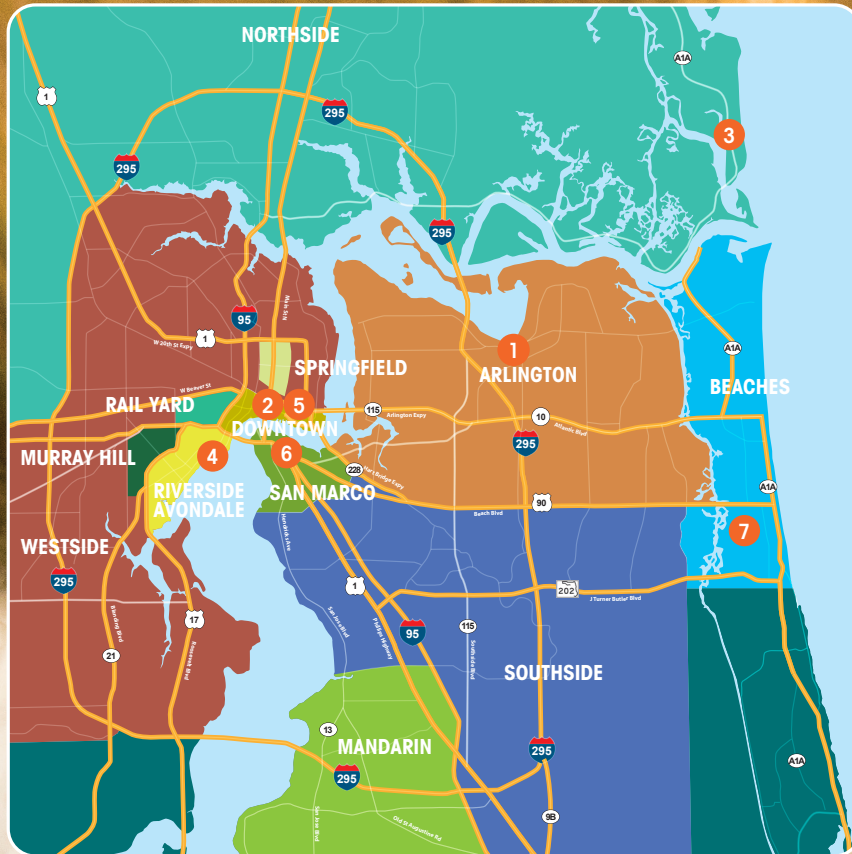
PICTURE PERFECT

JACKSONVILLE'S PICTURE-PERFECT SECRET SPOTS

Jacksonville is so pretty, it's never hard to find a location for a beautiful snapshot. But, if you're looking for those places that are harder to find, we'll let you in on the secret of where to get the best shots at the sites not everyone knows about. Check out our list below!

Here are some of our favorite "found #onlyinjax" locations to take the ultimate photos, whether using the highest quality lenses or just your phone, these local sites speak for themselves!

Head to [visitjacksonville.com/picture-perfect](https://www.visitjacksonville.com/picture-perfect) for a full list of photogenic spots!



1. Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens
2. The Florida Theatre
3. Boneyard Beach
4. Memorial Park
5. Rooftop Bars & Restaurants
6. Treaty Oak
7. Cradle Creek Preserve (main picture)





4



5



6





GET AROUND JACKSONVILLE IN SEVERAL DIFFERENT WAYS!

RIVER TAXI & TOURS

In the heart of Downtown, get from one side of the river to the other with the St. Johns River Taxi & Tours. It has several stops including TIAA Bank Field, home of the Jacksonville Jaguars! A sunset ride on the River Taxi & Tours is one of the best ways to see breathtaking views of the Jacksonville skyline.

TAXIS AND CAR SERVICE

Jacksonville visitors can access several local taxi companies, ZTrip, Uber & Lyft.

BUSES

Jacksonville has an outstanding public transportation system that is easy to use and surprisingly affordable. For more information and the JTA bus schedule, call 904-630-3100 or go to jtafla.com.

SKYWAY

The JTA-operated 2.5-mile Skyway provides "traffic-free" transportation between the North- and Southbanks of Downtown throughout the week, and during special events. Visit jtafla.com for more information or call 904-630-3100.

CAR RENTAL

Visitors may conveniently rent a car near the Jacksonville International Airport or throughout Jacksonville.

ST. JOHNS RIVER FERRY

Take a scenic break from the highway aboard one of the last remaining public ferries in the state! The historic St. Johns River Ferry carries passenger and cars between Mayport and Ft. George Island.

BEACH BUGGIES

Beach Buggy App provides FREE rides and recommendations to the residents and visitors of the beaches and San Marco Community. Operating environmentally friendly, zero emission, long-range, 8-10 seater electric carts and 14 passenger vans. Riders are not charged any type of fee, but encouraged to tip drivers however they see fit.

TUK'N RIDE

The Tuk'n Ride partnership between JTA & Go Tuk'n provides a stop-to-stop Jacksonville shuttle service using authentic European, eco-friendly Tuk Tuks and an ADA compliant Tuk'n Bus, offering a quick and convenient way for residents and visitors to patronize neighborhood businesses and restaurants without worrying about parking. Check out where they go on their website or app.

OVERVIEW MAP

No matter where you venture, you'll find Jacksonville's unique brand of Southern hospitality and charm. Explore the diverse neighborhoods that make our city so special.





DOWNTOWN

Sitting next to the St. Johns River and bustling with historic architecture, beautiful street art and murals, major museums, music theatres, world-class dining, craft breweries, modern convention hotels, top sporting venues and a vibrant nightlife scene, Downtown Jacksonville is Northeast Florida's urban hub and a must-see destination for visitors.

The Downtown Riverwalk is perfect for a stroll or a jog and one of our famous skyline photographs. Visitors can access Downtown via boat and can paddle or kayak off public launch ramps. If spectator sports are your thing, the

Jacksonville Jaguars play Downtown at the Sports Complex. Downtown Museums include the Ritz Theatre & La Villa Museum, the Museum of Contemporary Art Jacksonville and the Museum of Science & History.

To get around Downtown, use the Skyway or ride the St. Johns River Taxi & Tours, both offer great views of the city and the St. Johns River. Downtown Ambassadors are always nearby ready to give directions and suggestions to visitors: spot them by their bright orange shirts.

For more information visit: downtownjax.org.



BEACHES

Bring your flip-flops and pack the sunscreen. Jacksonville has 22 miles of wide, relaxing beaches with majestic sunrises and star-filled nights. At the beaches, visitors will find plenty to do with fun water activities, delicious local restaurants, nightlife hotspots, boutiques and oceanfront hotels and resorts blending into the scene without crowding shoreline views.

The Jacksonville coastline is made up of four quaint neighborhoods, each with its own distinct vibe. There is Jacksonville Beach, Neptune Beach, Atlantic Beach and historic Mayport Village. Our coastal communities are a great place to surf, paddleboard, kayak, surf, boat, swim, fish and walk over water at the newly reconstructed Jacksonville Beach Pier. There is plenty of free parking at the beaches and two city-owned lots that seasonally charge a small fee.



RIVERSIDE AVONDALE

Eclectic, bohemian, historic and hip, those are a few words often used to describe the Riverside Avondale district. Voted as one of the country's Top 10 Great Neighborhoods, and listed in the National Registry of Historic Places, this area features a unique mix of history, culture, charm and modern design.

Located just a few blocks from the St. Johns River, the district's "Five Points" area is a bohemian neighborhood with funky coffee shops, outdoor cafés, great local dining, one-of-a-kind shopping, nightclubs, antique stores and more. The Shoppes of Avondale, another highlight of this district, has an eclectic mix of locally owned restaurants, clothing boutiques and Spanish-moss-covered, oak-lined streets.

Beautiful historic homes and grand city parks are the norm in Riverside Avondale. Enjoy a self-guided tour or join a guided bike tour of the most architecturally significant structures in the area.

For more information visit: riversideavondale.org.



MURRAY HILL

Local art, delicious food, craft beer, and passionate makers have transformed Murray Hill into one of the coolest neighborhoods in Jacksonville. Located west of the hip and historic Riverside Avondale, this old yet new again hood has become the spot for young entrepreneurs to open innovative restaurants, boutiques, bottle shops and businesses.

When visiting, check out its parks like Four Corners and Murray Hill Park and stroll along Edgewood Avenue and its dozens of local stores. Snap a pic of the neighborhood's many murals and catch a show at the historic Murray Hill Theatre. **For more information visit: murrayhilljax.com.**



MURRAY HILL • MURRAY

MURRAY





SAN MARCO

Located just minutes away from Downtown's Southbank, the historic neighborhood of San Marco offers visitors beautiful St. Johns River views, tree-lined running routes, and some of the best sunset views in the city. Stroll along the San Marco Square and you'll discover sensational local dining of every kind, upscale trendy clothing boutiques and great art galleries. Don't miss the San Marco fountain of lions that reflect the neighborhood's association with the Venice, Italy business district. Theatre Jacksonville, the oldest community theatre in the country dating back to 1938, is also located within the square.

San Marco is also home to several popular hotels, craft breweries, coffee shops, and world-class medical facilities.
For more information visit: mysanmarco.com.





SPRINGFIELD

Established in 1869 as one of Jacksonville's most upscale neighborhoods, and located adjacent to the north of Downtown Jacksonville, the historic Springfield neighborhood is in the middle of a re-birth. This historic neighborhood is filled with restored historic mansions, locally-owned shops, parks, craft breweries and tons of southern charm with majestic oaks providing protective shade along its residential streets. This neighborhood gives visitors a window into Jacksonville's past and the City's effort to preserve its history. **For more information visit: sparcouncil.org.**





LOUIS VUITTON THE SOUTHSIDE

Once a field of cows and farmland, the Southside has quickly evolved into the hustling and bustling heart of the city. From apartments, to malls, to business centers and more, the Southside is overflowing with popular attractions, nightclubs, entertainment centers, movie theatres, massive shopping districts, fine dining and parks.

Families love living near the St. Johns Town Center, the Markets at Town Center and the Strand at Town Center. All of these massive complexes make up Jacksonville's largest shopping destination with more than 200 stores, restaurants and nightlife options for visitors.



ORTEGA & THE WESTSIDE

Across the Buckman Bridge, on the other side of the St. Johns River from Mandarin, visitors will find the Westside and Ortega communities.

A mostly commercial area, the Westside is home to several Jacksonville highlights, including the Equestrian Center of Jacksonville, the Baldwin-Jacksonville Rail Trail and the Naval Air Station Jacksonville, one of two naval bases in Jacksonville. NAS is the founding location of the Blue Angels. Ortega, located in a peninsula separated from the mainland by the St. Johns River and the Ortega River, is one of the wealthiest neighborhoods in Jacksonville. Riverfront mansions and beautifully manicured city parks make this one of the best neighborhoods for a run, or a long drive.



MANDARIN

Along the St. Johns River and south of San Marco, you will find the Mandarin neighborhood. This quaint area is marked by its history, ancient oak trees draped with Spanish moss, beautiful historic parks, and more water views than any other area in Jacksonville.

Mandarin owes its name to its farming history. In the 19th century the neighborhood used to be a small farming village that shipped oranges, grapefruit, lemons and other fruits and vegetables. Nowadays, the mostly residential area is brimming with commerce and big box retailers.



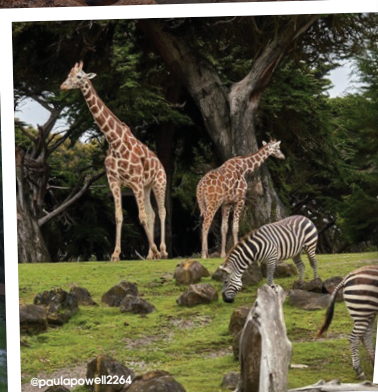
THE NORTHSIDE

Three of Jacksonville's main travel hubs, Jacksonville International Airport, the Amtrak station and the JAXPORT Cruise Terminal, are located in the Northside along with dozens of hotels and several factories. Despite the high number of businesses in the area, the Northside is residential with many historic neighborhoods and some of the city's best oceanfront parks.

The Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve, managed by the National Park Service, is in Jacksonville's Northside and offers 46,000 acres of history and adventure. You can kayak, boat, Jet Ski, swim, fish and hike in this unspoiled coastal wetland.

Beautiful salt marshes, coastal dunes and hardwood hammocks populate the Preserve, as well as Kingsley Plantation, one of the last remaining Plantation houses in the state of Florida. The Preserve, and all its attractions, can be reached by boat or car.

Huguenot Memorial Park, Big Talbot Island State Park, Little Talbot Island State Park, Pumpkin Hill Creek Preserve State Park, and Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park are amongst some of the natural wonders that can be experienced in this area. Be sure to take a drive down the A1A Ocean Islands Trail to enjoy all the local coastal beauty.





ARLINGTON

Arlington is one of the first areas in the United States visited by Europeans. It was the site of the French Fort Caroline settlement back in 1564, and is now the Fort Caroline National Memorial, one of Jacksonville's two National Parks. Other historic and natural sites in Arlington include the Jacksonville Arboretum, the Tree Hill Nature Preserve, Kona Skate Park, the oldest skateboarding park in the world, and Jacksonville University.



@roadnoisetravels





RAIL YARD DISTRICT

The district gets its name from its historic rail yards which have been operating since 1858. Located just minutes from Downtown Jacksonville, it is easily accessible from both I-95 and I-10.

The Rail Yard District is home to the oldest continuously operating Farmers Market in Florida, established in 1938 and open daily from dawn to dusk (it closes only on Thanksgiving and Christmas). Eco Relics, the largest architectural salvage store in the southeast, houses over 50,000 sq. ft. of retail store in an old rail depot.

The neighborhood is home to two family friendly Jax Ale Trail breweries. Tabula Rasa Brewing sits on McCoy's Creek and has a beautiful outdoor space to enjoy a beer or a game in the yard. Lemonstreet Brewing Co. is a great place to experience local flavors and indoor space with full bocce courts, corn hole boards, darts and board games. The newest area brewery is Myrtle Ave Brewing, offering great indoor and outdoor play areas for the kids and weekend food options. If you need to work through some more energy, Battalion Airsoft Arena is one of the southeast's largest Indoor airsoft arenas and features a 40,000 sq. ft. indoor field and players lounge.



THINGS TO DO

There's a lot of land in Jacksonville – 840 square miles to be exact. As the largest city by landmass in the United States with more shoreline than any other Florida city, there's no shortage of things to see and do in Jax. Go on an outdoor adventure at Little Talbot Island or Hanna Park, or take a historical tour at Kingsley Plantation, Fort Caroline National Memorial or the Riverside/Avondale neighborhood. Jacksonville has the largest urban park system in the country with more than 400 parks to explore.

Prefer shopping? Check out the St. Johns Town Center, the Beaches Town Center or local maker markets like the Riverside Arts Market and 904 Pop Up.

Visit Jacksonville has put together itineraries and self-guided tours you can find throughout our website. If you're interested in guided tours, we have plenty of those, too. Tuk tuk, bike, golf cart and walking tours are available from many of our local guides. Check out all of the available tours at visitjacksonville.com/book-a-tour.

CHECKOUT JACKSONVILLE'S TOP 22 ATTRACTIONS:

1. Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens
2. The Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens
3. Catty Shack Ranch
4. Little Talbot Island
5. Big Talbot Island
6. Kathryn Abbey Hanna Park
7. Kingsley Plantation
8. St. Johns Town Center
9. Beaches Town Center
10. MOSH (Museum of Science and History)
11. Fort Caroline National Memorial
12. Riverside Arts Market
13. TIAA Bank Field
14. Huguenot Memorial Park
15. Riverside Avondale
16. Jacksonville Arboretum and Gardens
17. Friendship Fountain
18. The Florida Theatre
19. The Jax Ale Trail
20. North & Southbank Riverwalk
21. Castaway Island Preserve
22. Jacksonville Center of Performing Arts

Visit: visitjacksonville.com/blog/the-top-22-attractions-in-jacksonville for all the details.





THINGS TO DO

FAMILY FRIENDLY

Jacksonville is perfect for families. Kids of all ages can stretch their imagination, explore the outdoors and spend time together as a family. From parks to museums to sports and everything in between, there's no shortage of ways to have fun as a family in Jacksonville.

Outdoor enthusiasts can explore the largest urban park system in the nation with bird watching, kayaking or hiking, or they can peddle along more than 14 miles of tree canopies on the Baldwin Rail Trail.

Our local family attractions guarantee a good time, no matter the age. The award-winning Jacksonville Zoo & Gardens is continually ranked among the top zoos in the country. Caddy Shack Ranch Wildlife Sanctuary gives your family the chance to get up close with rescued big cats. Sweet Pete's is an amazing candy and sweet experience, book a class, take a tour or store just stop by to grab some treats. Autobahn Indoor Speedway is great for high speed go karts and ax throwing.

Looking for something indoors? Try the Museum of Science and History, Museum of Contemporary Art, Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens, Beaches Museum & History Park or the Ritz Theatre & Museum.

Sports-loving families have options throughout the year in Jax. From Jacksonville Jaguars football, to Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp baseball, Jacksonville Icemen hockey and specialized sports like fishing and running, Jax offers plenty of opportunities to catch your favorite sports in action.

Check out the "Things To Do" Section at visitjacksonville.com for a full list of great activities.





THINGS TO DO



KIDS FREE NOVEMBER

Let your kids explore and learn something new while spending some quality family time together, even when you're on a budget, during Kids Free November. Bring the whole family to Jacksonville and up to five kids under 12 years old will get in free with a paying adult at the area's top attractions all month long. Check out kidsfreenovember.com for the details.



OUTDOOR/NATURE

Jacksonville is the parks capital of America. With the **largest urban park system** in the entire nation, visitors can experience the ultimate **coastal eco adventure** in our destination. Jacksonville's parks take you from peaceful riverfront views, to kayaking the marshes and wetlands, biking miles of nature trails, paddleboarding in freshwater lagoons, surfing the best waves in the region, fishing all year around, and connecting to the local wildlife in settings you've never experienced in Florida before. Our parks are active, family-friendly and waiting to host your next green adventure!

400 CITY PARKS

It all began with a park in the middle of Downtown Jacksonville. Hemming Park was sold to the city for \$10 back in 1857 becoming the first and now oldest City park. Since then, our park system has grown to become the largest in the nation. Venture out to the Riverwalk in Downtown, Memorial Park in historic Riverside, Balis Park on the quaint San Marco Square, Stockton Park in riverfront Ortega, Walter Jones Historical park in Mandarin, Castaway Island Preserve on the Southside, Hanna Park in Atlantic Beach, and Huguenot Park on the Northside to explore some of the most unique, and beautiful examples of urban parks in Jacksonville. **You'll find yourself in the middle of the city yet immersed in nature.**

7 STATE PARKS

Bring the RV, the camping gear, the boat, or just your outdoor shoes, because exploring our State parks system is a must for any visiting nature lover. Marshes, wetlands, wildlife, and pristine beaches, you'll find it all just a few minutes from the city's core. Big Talbot and Little Talbot Islands are the most photogenic, and offer facilities and rental gear to hype up your trip.

2 NATIONAL PARKS

History and nature coexist beautifully inside Jacksonville's Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve and Fort Caroline National Memorial, a historic French settlement dating back to 1564. The two sites are under the care of the National Parks System and offer visitors a deep look into our city's natural side. The Preserve is home to 46,000 acres of unspoiled coastal wetlands and marshes ideal for fishing, birding and spotting otters and dolphins in the wild.

A close-up photograph of a hand holding a dark, fossilized shark tooth. The tooth is triangular with a serrated edge. The background is a clear blue sky.

TOP PARKS FOR VISITORS

CITY PARKS

1. Hanna Park
2. Huguenot Memorial Park
3. Castaway Island Preserve
4. Dutton Island Preserve
5. Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens
6. Fort Family Regional Park at Baymeadows
7. Losco Regional Park
8. Jessie Ball duPont Park, home of Treaty Oak
9. James Weldon Johnson Park
10. Memorial Park
11. Riverside Park
12. Stockton Park
13. Tillie K. Fowler Regional Park
14. Baldwin Park
15. Mandarin Park
16. Walter Jones Park

STATE PARKS

16. Pumpkin Hill Creek Preserve State Park
17. Talbot Islands State Parks
18. Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park
19. Fort George Island Cultural State Park
20. George Crady Bridge Fishing Pier State Park

NATIONAL PARKS

21. Fort Caroline National Park
22. Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve
23. Kingsley Plantation

To learn more go to visitjacksonville.com/parks.



BEACHES & WATERWAYS

With 1,100 miles of navigable water, Jax has more shoreline than any other city in the nation.

We are home to 22 miles of beaches, 40 miles of the Intracoastal Waterway, 50 public boat ramps, and the longest stretch of the St. Johns River in the state of Florida. Jacksonville is the birthplace of the Salt Life movement and Florida's best watersports getaway!

22 MILES OF BEACHES

These are not your grandparents' beaches. Come surf, kayak, paddleboard, swim, dive, boat, fish and explore Jacksonville's unique coastal shores. The city's main beaches are Jacksonville Beach, Neptune Beach, Mayport Beach and Atlantic Beach. They are public, and pet friendly, plus they are home to surf shops, fresh seafood restaurants, quaint beach boutiques, and parks like Hanna Park and Dutton Island Preserve. Get a new perspective of the coastline from the newly rebuilt Jacksonville Beach Pier, open for walking and fishing. In the city's Northside, unspoiled barrier islands offer must-see beaches like Blackrock Beach, Boneyard Beach, Little Talbot Island, and Huguenot Park. All accessible by taking a short ferry ride from the beaches or driving down the picturesque Heckscher Drive from Downtown. Jacksonville also has a very active diving scene, with more than 30 offshore reefs off our Atlantic coast.

THE ST. JOHNS RIVER

This mighty Florida river is one of the largest recreational spots in Jacksonville. The St. Johns is one of fewer than 30 rivers in the United States that flow northward. Most of the river in our area is part seawater, making it a unique ecosystem where dolphins, manatees and even sharks swim freely. The St. Johns River is ideal for boating and fishing, with fish such as mullet, flounder, shad, and blue crabs migrating from the ocean to freshwater springs upriver to spawn. In Downtown Jacksonville, the river provides tons of attractions opportunities including the Riverwalk, and sporting events like the P1 Powerboats and kayaking excursions. There are dozens of public water access ramps along the St. Johns River.

THE INTRACOASTAL WATERWAYS (ICW)

This natural body of water flows along the East Coast and divides Jacksonville's Southside from the beaches area. Fishermen and boating enthusiasts enjoy the more than 40 miles of ICW's canals, marshes and channels in Jacksonville every day. Public access ramps make it easier to enjoy a paddleboard adventure, or a leisurely kayak trip. Spotted seatrout, flounder, black drum and redfish call this brackish tributary home.



A1A ISLANDS TRAIL

Take a ride on Jacksonville's coastal side and encounter the historic A1A Ocean Islands Trail. This 40-mile stretch of A1A is one of the most beautiful coastal scenic routes in the Southeast beginning in Fernandina Beach, passing through Amelia Island and ending at the Duval County/St. Johns County line in South Jacksonville Beach. Drive through quaint historic neighborhoods and the Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve under Spanish-moss covered oak trees and past unique cultural sites and fishing piers for breathtaking views of the Atlantic Ocean while you make unforgettable road-trip memories!

In Jacksonville, the A1A Ocean Islands Trail begins with a ride through **Talbot Islands State Park**. It's one of Jacksonville's most beautiful state parks with camping grounds, bike trails and unique beaches like **Black Rock Beach** and **Boneyard Beach**, both great stops for photographers. Then, cruise by **Huguenot Park** with its white sand and fun atmosphere. This city park is the only beach in Jacksonville where you can drive on the sand.

Another highlight of the A1A Ocean Islands Trail is **Fort George Island** and **Kingsley Plantation**, one of the last remaining plantation houses in Florida. Kingsley is extremely significant to Jacksonville's African American Heritage. These historic sites are part of the National Park System and located inside the **Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve**. From there, take the **St. Johns River Ferry** and venture into the historic **Mayport Village** to enjoy fresh local seafood or surf "The Poles" at **Hanna Park**.

As you make your way through our beautiful Jacksonville beaches communities you'll encounter the **Beaches Town Center** with its string of local boutiques, dining options and the beautiful **Atlantic Beach**. Be sure to stop at the Visitor Center at the **Beaches Museum in Jacksonville Beach** to learn more about our stunning coastal communities.

FISHING IN JAX

Whether you are an offshore saltwater cowboy or backwater fly gal, Jacksonville boasts some of the best fishing in the southeast. Here is a quick rundown of where to cast your line for a great catch.





THE RIVER AND BACKWATERS

The St. Johns River with its many creeks, coves and marshes has some killer fishing, whether you are casting a fly from a kayak or dropping a line from a skiff. Near the mouth of the St. Johns, within five miles of the Mayport Inlet, is where anglers are going to hook big seatrout and flounder, and the jetties are always flush with fish. Croakers run hard from Sister's Creek to the Dames Point Bridge. The region called Hannah Mills, which includes Clapboard Creek to Sister's Creek are favorites for kayak and small craft fishing for redfish, trout and flounder. Further up river, Mills Cove opens up for catching red drum that love its grassy shallows and oyster beds. Local shrimp can be found throughout the river, especially from July to September.

THE INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY

The mouths of the larger creeks on the ICW are where the fish run hard. Pablo Creek is a favorite for local guides. Spotted seatrout, flounder, black drum and redfish call this brackish tributary home. Largemouth bass are the trophy fish caught in its freshwaters. Cabbage Creek is another hot spot off the ICW and is known for mostly saltwater species. Word is that there is a spot in between these two creeks that locals call "the tarpon pit." The water there is flush with baby tarpon but catching them can be a challenge for even the most seasoned angler.

BEACH, SHORELINE AND PIER FISHING

With more than 22 miles of beaches and four large inlets, beach fishing is at its prime in Jacksonville. Black drum, speckled sea trout, pompano, whiting and redfish are the prize catches. From Huguenot Beach to Jacksonville Beach, you can't go wrong with a cooler, shrimp for bait and a sand spike. Pier fishing is also an option. There are a variety of small piers to fish from throughout the region, and a couple big stretches of pier as well. In the summer, King Mackerel are the prize, while flounder in the fall make for a great meal. The George Crady Bridge Fishing Pier State Park is a favorite in north Jacksonville. This mile-long pedestrian-only pier is key for catching jack, drum, whiting and tarpon.

OFFSHORE

Whether you are out to catch a kingfish mount, or bring home mahi for dinner, offshore fishing is off the hook in Northeast Florida. The Gulf Stream is 50-75 miles off the coast. Fishermen can battle it out with dolphin, ballyhoo, marlin, cobia and other fighters of the sea. In the fall, 15 miles off shore, grouper and snapper abound. Sticking a little close to the coast, kayak fishermen can run just a mile off the beaches looking for birds swooping the water, and stumble upon big fish. Jacksonville is famous for our Mayport Shrimp caught in the waters just off the coast.

ARTS & CULTURE

OLD CITY, PROGRESSIVE VIBE

As a melting pot of cultures since 1564, Jacksonville is proud of its vast heritage and eager to welcome new visitors to discover it!

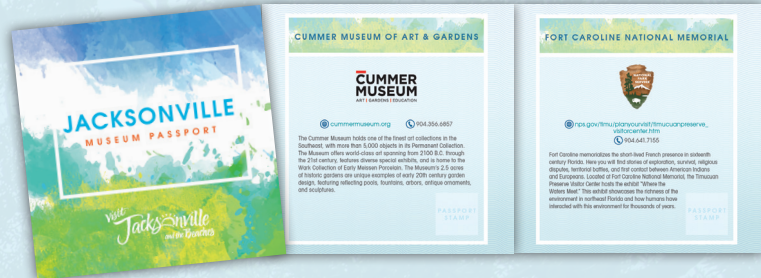
Art is an everyday/everywhere occurrence in Jax and you can experience it in our hip historic neighborhoods, in Downtown through our active art in public spaces, at one of the Jacksonville Symphony concerts, at the annual Jacksonville Jazz Festival, during our numerous street fairs and craft markets, and inside our thought provoking world-class museums that are some of the most visited in the southeast. The vibrant mix of old southern charm and modern Florida flair make Jacksonville one of the top art cities in the southeast.



INTERACTIVE MUSEUMS

Visit one of the city's beloved museums to connect to our roots and our future. The Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens and the Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA Jax) incorporate local and world-class art into their exhibits showcasing the talent and culture of our city.

Our Museum Passport is an easy way to discover all there is to learn around the city. (And win prizes while you do it!) Pick one up at the front desk of any participating museum or at our Downtown Visitor Center.



MURALS CITY

Jacksonville's buildings have become the best canvases for some of the world's most talented muralists. An impressive number of larger-than-life works of graffiti art adorn the neighborhoods of Downtown, Riverside and Jacksonville Beach. Download the Visit Jax app on your smart phone and enjoy a self-guided tour of some of our murals and mosaics. If you're looking for a street view, book a Go Tuk'n Mural Tour, rent a bike from Jax Art Bike Tours, or hop on an e2Ride Bike Tour of the local street art and capture some great photos.

Make sure to stop, look around you and experience the culture of the city everywhere you go. Local, national and international artists have left their mark all over Jacksonville while drawing inspiration from our river, beaches, natural wonders and our long list of outstanding residents. Check out the tours section of the Visit Jax app for all our history, art and culture tours.



HISTORY

In 2022 Jacksonville turned 200. Our bicentennial celebrated and remembered Jacksonville's unique history, its struggles and the citizens who made the city what it is.

HISTORY MUSEUMS

Visit one of the city's beloved history museums and connect to our roots and our future. The Museum of Science and History (MOSH), the Ritz Theater and Museum of African American Heritage, the Beaches Museum, the Mandarin Museum and Historical Society and the Museum of Southern History, all share unique facets of Jacksonville's history.

Our Museum Passport is an easy way to discover all there is to learn around the city. (And win prizes while you do it!) Pick one up at the front desk of any participating museum.

OLD FLORIDA

Jacksonville is where Florida begins. The European settlers into modern day America first arrived in our coast in 1564, the Huguenots were escaping religious persecution in France. The new settlers lived peacefully with the local indigenous Timucuan until their village was destroyed by Spaniards settling further south in St. Augustine. Visitors can explore our French roots at the Fort Caroline National Monument, part of the National Parks System.

HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOODS

Eclectic, bohemian, young, fun and hip are not usually terms that define historic neighborhoods, but they do in Jax. Our historic neighborhoods are full of charm and good vibes! Riverside Avondale, San Marco, Murray Hill, Springfield and Downtown have a unique combination of old world and new blood pumping through them. Explore historic homes, browse through heritage museums, go for a stroll in a 100-year-old park and at the same time discover innovative shops, sample local craft beer, shop at cute modern boutiques, dine at chef-owned restaurants and sip freshly brewed coffee in a restored historic building.

GOLDEN ARCHITECTURE ERA

After The Great Fire of 1901, that began on the banks of the St. Johns River in Downtown and burned down 146 city blocks, some of the nation's best architects descended upon Jacksonville to help rebuild. Famed New York City architect Henry John Klutho erected some of the city's most memorable buildings including the St. James Building, currently housing the Jacksonville City Hall. During reconstruction, Jacksonville became the site for Florida's first skyscraper. The historic building is still standing and due to become a boutique hotel soon. Currently, Jacksonville has one of the largest collections of Prairie Style buildings outside the Midwest.

THE HOLLYWOOD OF THE SOUTH

Sure, nowadays when you think of movies you think of Hollywood, but back in the day Jacksonville was the spot where the biggest and brightest movie stars hung out. During the silent movie era, Jacksonville was the winter capital of the movie business attracting studios to shoot their latest hits in our warm city. Jacksonville's first silent film studio opened in 1908, followed by more than 30 others over the course of the next decade, including Metro Pictures - which later became Hollywood giant, MGM. Historic picture palaces still in operation today in Jacksonville include The Florida Theatre, built in 1927, and the San Marco Theater, built in 1938, as an art deco masterpiece and currently shows big blockbusters and cult classics.



BLACK HERITAGE

Since the French Huguenots first landed in Jacksonville, our city has been a refuge for those looking for freedom. At the turn of the 1900s, Jacksonville became a mecca for commerce and independence for African Americans in the south. Those days have left the city with a wealth of African American heritage that can be explored at the more than 21 stops on the self-guided Jax Heritage Trail. Today, Jacksonville has the second largest percentage of black citizens in the United States.

MUSIC ROOTS

Jacksonville is the birthplace of many famous musicians and bands. The earliest, most well-known, local musicians were James Weldon Johnson and his brother John Rosamond Johnson who wrote and composed 'Lift Every Voice and Sing,' often referred to as the Black National Anthem. Soon after in 1910, Jacksonville notes the first published account of blues singing on a public stage occurring at LaVilla's Colored Airdome.

Jacksonville might best be known as the "Birthplace of Southern Rock," a genre with roots of blues, jazz, soul, R&B and rock 'n roll. In the 1960s, Allman Brothers Band, Lynyrd Skynyrd, .38 Special, Blackfoot and Molly Hatchet formed in the city. In the early 90s, the Miami bass resurgence brought three local acts out of obscurity - 95 South, 69 Boyz and Quad City DJs. Other world-famous Jacksonville musicians include: Ray Charles, Ma Rainey, Jelly Roll Morton, Classics IV, Limp Bizkut, Inspection 12, Yellowcard, Shinedown, Red Jumpsuit Apparatus and Black Kids.



TRAVEL GUIDES & ITINERARIES

Are you wondering what there is for YOU in Jax? Check out our travel guides, self-guided tours, and itineraries created for whatever interests you. Jacksonville is a unique place, and we want to make it easy for you to find all the great "things to do" in our city. Use our tools to plan the trip YOU want, no matter how long you have to spend here.

TRAVEL GUIDES

Whether you're a foodie, history buff, music lover, sports enthusiast, or someone who likes to explore, let our travel guides show you the types of #onlyinjax experiences available. With opportunities to visit neighborhoods throughout the city, our travel guides offer adventure and exploration whether you are visiting for the first time or the tenth time.

- Black Travel Guide
- Dog Friendly Travel Guide
- Families Travel Guide
- Foodies Travel Guide
- Historical Travel Guide
- LGBTQ+ Travel Guide
- Latino Travel Guide
- Music Lovers Travel Guide
- Solo Trips Travel Guide
- Sport Lovers Travel Guide
- Water Sports Travel Guide



ITINERARIES – PLAN YOUR STAY

Jax is full of opportunities for fun, whether you prefer the beach, nature, parks, sports, or water. Look through our expertly curated itineraries and check out the self-guided tours on the Visit Jax app to help plan the best Jacksonville experience possible.

- Beach Itineraries
- Cultural Itineraries
- Nature/Parks Itineraries
- Sports Itineraries
- Water Itineraries
- Dog Friendly Itineraries

LOCAL SELF-GUIDED TOURS

Explore Jacksonville through one of our self-guided tours. Travel at your own pace and pick the stops you want to make. Download the Visit Jax app to have select tours at your fingertips. There's so much to see in Jacksonville, it can be difficult to map out your ideal sightseeing adventure. We've made it easy for you with our list of must-do self-guided tours. Search through arts & culture, history, and nature tours all right here in the city.

- Arts & Culture Tours
- Beaches Tours
- History Tours
- Nature Tours
- Neighborhoods Tours



MEDICAL TOURISM

JAX, YOUR DESTINATION FOR HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Jacksonville is the ideal destination for health with a strong network of medical professionals bringing their expertise to our city and providing cutting-edge lifesaving treatments to patients from around the globe.

Few American cities of any size are home to so many top medical facilities, among them Ackerman Cancer Center, Ascension St. Vincent's HealthCare, Baptist Health, Brooks Rehabilitation, Jacksonville Orthopedic Institute, Mayo Clinic, MD Anderson Cancer Center, Memorial Hospital, Nemours Children's Clinic, UF Health Jacksonville, UF Health Proton Therapy Institute and Wolfson Children's Hospital. These world-class facilities specialize in a wide variety of top programs including cancer treatment, cardiac health and advanced rehabilitation therapies, dialysis, pediatrics, bariatric surgery, family medicine, key medical research projects and much more.

Jacksonville also has a thriving biotechnology industry and is home to one of the top teaching and research hospitals in the nation, UF Health.

For those seeking long-term medical treatment in Jacksonville, our Patient Concierge Program helps patients and their families by offering special lodging rates and exclusive deals to city attractions for patients and their families.



JAX GOT GAME!

Not your team? Not a problem! In Jacksonville, our fan base is so passionate we guarantee you will be cheering for the home team in no time.

Whether you are following your team into town, or visiting to experience one of our own, Jacksonville's sports scene is a must for any true fanatic. From NFL football, to indoor football, college football, minor league baseball, professional surfing, competitive fishing, basketball, hockey and soccer, we have every team to get your fan fix on.

The Sports Complex in Downtown Jacksonville is home to TIAA Bank Field, voted one of the Top Fan Experiences in the NFL with two swimming pools, cabanas, live DJs, VIP Suites, and great food options. The 121 Financial Ballpark at the Baseball Grounds of Jacksonville and the VyStar Veterans Memorial Arena are the two other premier sporting venues in the city. And because we want you to keep it local while in Jax, you can tailgate before your game while enjoying local food, craft beer and spirits at Intuition Ale Works and Manifest Distilling, both located inside the Sports Complex.

NFL IN JAX: LET'S ROAR!

The Jacksonville Jaguars experience is unlike any other in the NFL. The Jags fans are passionate and know how to tailgate! You'll have just as much fun outside the stadium before the game as you will inside. Follow your team to Jax or become a Jags fan for the day, sample our local foods, drink our local beer, join in on the local cheers (DUUUVAL), and maybe take a dip in the pools inside the stadium. The Jacksonville Jaguars have some of the lowest tickets prices, yet the best game day experience, in the NFL. Look for Seymour Jax, our mobile visitor center, at every Jaguars game.





BIG TIME IN THE MINOR LEAGUES

Our minor league teams are a big deal. The Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp, the minor league team for the Miami Marlins, play at the beautiful 121 Financial Park in the middle of the Sports Complex. The Jacksonville Armada FC (soccer), the Jacksonville Sharks (arena football), the Jacksonville Giants (ABA basketball), the Jacksonville Axemen (rugby league) and the Jacksonville Iceman (ECHL hockey) are the rest of the winning teams that call Jacksonville home. Including an excursion to one of these year-round games is a must on any trip to Jacksonville.

COLLEGE BOWLS

Jacksonville plays host to two major college sporting events each year, one in the fall and one in the winter, and both are more than worth the trip! The iconic Florida vs. Georgia Football Classic has been taking place in Jacksonville since 1933 bringing together two passionate fan bases and thousands of college football lovers to our city. Equally exciting, every New Year weekend for the past 70 years, The TaxSlayer Gator Bowl brings outstanding SEC and ACC teams to Jacksonville for an unforgettable game and celebration to kick off the New Year!

WAVE RIDERS

Jacksonville has more shoreline than any other Florida destination, making us the spot to visit for anglers looking to reel in their next big catch and surfers wanting to tame a wild wave. Surfing competitions take place all year long at our beaches and include the Florida Surfing Championships and the Super Grom Festival. If competitive fishing is your game, then Jacksonville offers a wide variety of tournaments throughout year including the El Cheapo Sheephead Tournament in March, and the Greater Jacksonville Kingfish Tournament in July.

TOP EVENTS 2022/2023

Jacksonville plays host to hundreds of events annually from big-time sporting events and music festivals to fishing tournaments and holiday celebrations. Some of our top trip-worthy annual events include:

FALL

- Florida Fin Festival
- Florida vs. Georgia
- Flounder Pounder
- Jacksonville Jaguars Season Home Games
- Jacksonville Light Boat Parade
- Jax River City Pride
- Kids Free November
- Porchfest
- SuperGirl Surf Pro
- Veterans Day Parade
- WasabiCon

WINTER

- 26.2 with Donna: National Marathon to Finish Breast Cancer
- El Cheapo Sheepshead Tournament
- Gate River Run
- The Spartan Race
- TaxSlayer Gator Bowl
- World of Nations
- Deck the Chairs
- ZOOLights
- Jacksonville Arboretum and Garden's Dazzling Lights

SPRING/SUMMER

- CollectiveCon
- Greater Jacksonville Kingfish Tournament
- Jacksonville Fourth of July Celebrations
- Jacksonville Jazz Festival
- Mandarin Arts Festival
- Naval Station Jacksonville Airshow
- Opening of the Beaches
- SLS Skateboarding Championships
- Springing the Blues
- THE PLAYERS Championship



WEEKLY/MONTHLY EVENTS:

EVERY SATURDAY Riverside Arts Market

Every Saturday from 10 am to 3 pm underneath the Fuller Warren Bridge, more than 100 juried artists showcase our city's creative side, from handmade pottery to silk-screened shirts and unique accessories. RAM's expansive Farmer's Market features local produce, as well as artisan breads and other tasty treats. The Market's three stages present exceptional live entertainment, from great regional bands to barbershop quartets. www.riversideartsmarket.com

Art Walk Downtown – First Wednesday of the Month

A must-do-and-see for arts enthusiasts. On the first Wednesday of each month, take a free, self-guided tour through downtown Jacksonville's galleries, where local artists display their works. Enjoy local food trucks, music, and an outdoor arts marketplace for finding the perfect Jacksonville souvenir. www.jacksonvilleartwalk.com

Jacksonville Beach Art Walk – Second Tuesday of the Month

Join us on the second Tuesday of every month for the Jax Beach Art Walk! This family friendly event takes place in front of businesses along 1st St from Beach Blvd north to 5th Ave N. The Jax Beach Art Walk showcases the talent of great local artists and the businesses in the community. Many of the participating businesses will have live music and specials throughout the art walk. Join us from 5:00 - 9:00 PM every second Tuesday for the Jax Beach Art Walk.

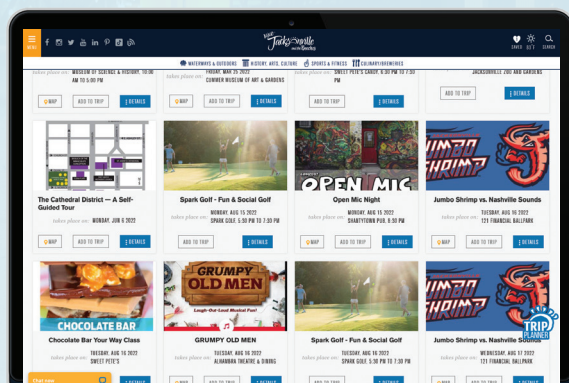
North Beach Artwalk – Third Thursday of the Month

North Beaches Artwalk is a free event held the third Thursday of each month from 5 to 9 pm. Featuring many local visual artist and live performers. Artwalk is held at the Atlantic Beach & Neptune Beach Town Centers. www.nbaw.com

Sip & Stroll

Downtown Vision's monthly "Sip & Stroll," presented by PNC on the Southbank Riverwalk with live music, food vendors, bars and picnic areas. Event goers are encouraged to bring picnic blankets and lawn chairs. Dogs on leashes are welcome. Parking is available for \$5 at 1301 Riverplace Blvd., located in the lot in front of DoubleTree Hotel. The River Taxi will also be taking fares during Sip & Stroll evenings.

904 Pop Up – Jacksonville's largest curated pop up featuring hundreds of creatives and many food trucks, Sundays at Seawalk Pavilion in Jacksonville Beach. www.904popup.com



For the latest detailed information about events, please check out visitjacksonville.com/events. Event dates are subject to change.



GOLF

Whether you are a seasoned golfer or just a beginner anyone can enjoy Jacksonville's beautiful sunny weather and miles of fairways. Jacksonville's pristine semi-private and public courses, affordable rates, great fall deals, and expert golf coaches make it one of the top golf destinations in Florida.

Bring your clubs, or buy or rent some here, and tee off at area courses designed by some of the best in the game, fit for every level of expertise and budget. At the Beaches, golf at Windsor, Queens Harbour and Jacksonville Beach Golf Club; in Jacksonville's Southside tee off at Deercreek Country Club and Hidden Hills Golf Club; and on the Westside, visit the Bent Creek Country Club. Each course is unique in design and ready to challenge you in ways that will keep you coming back for more!

Need further assistance planning a golf getaway to Jax? Connect with Florida's First Coast of Golf for an unforgettable golfing experience. florida-golf.org

TOP JAX GOLF COURSES

- Bent Creek Golf Course
- Blue Cypress Golf Park
- Blue Sky Golf Club
- Deercreek Country Club
- Fiddlers Green at Cecil Field Golf Club
- Hidden Hills Golf Club
- Hyde Park Golf Club
- Jacksonville Beach Golf Club
- NAS Jacksonville Golf Club
- Queens Harbour Yacht & Country Club
- UNF Golf Complex
- Windsor Parke Golf Club

SHOPPING

Forgot your swimsuit or need a new golf shirt? We've got you covered! Looking to redecorate your entire home while on vacation? We have you covered on that too! No matter your fashion taste or your budget, there is a perfect store for you in Jacksonville.

Our shopping mecca is filled with vintage and antique markets, upscale chic and trendy boutiques, national décor stores and outlets, arts and crafts community markets, big box retailers and the St. Johns Town Center - the largest shopping center in the region. Jacksonville is a dream shopping getaway. Don't miss out on all the deals!

MALL SHOPPING

Locals love to browse, shop, and dine in Jacksonville's world-class malls. Between the outdoor St. Johns Town Center, The Avenues, and River City Marketplace, Jacksonville has the market cornered on hot deals and upscale brand names.

TRENDY BOUTIQUE SHOPPING

If you enjoy discovering vintage, handmade, and unique treasures, then visit Jacksonville's eclectic shopping neighborhoods: San Marco, Riverside Avondale, Five Points, and Beaches Town Center. These areas offer walkable streets and a variety of shopping and dining options.

FARMER'S MARKETS/FLEA MARKETS/OUTDOOR SHOPPING

The "buy local" movement is in full-swing with arts and farmers markets sprouting up in areas throughout Jacksonville. Visit a Jacksonville farmers market for a taste of fresh local produce, baked-goods, and other artisanal delights. The Jacksonville Farmer's Market (oldest in the state), Riverside Arts Market (commonly referred to locally as RAM), 904 Pop Up, Beaches Green Market and any one of the following flea markets offer great opportunities to enjoy the weather, the fresh and homemade goods, or to strike a deal on that must have item: Pecan Park Flea & Farmer's Market, Beach Blvd. Flea Market, Ramona Flea Market, Norwood Plaza Flea Market or Bargain House of Fleas.

ANTIQUE SHOPPING/ARCHITECTURE SALVAGE & RECLAIMED SHOPPING

Stroll through our local vintage and antique stores to find the perfect parting gift, try Avonlea Antique Mall, Rusted, Fans & Stoves Antique Mall, Southern Crossings or The Antique Market of San Jose. Or if you want to try something a little different, head home with a piece of Jacksonville's history from EcoRelics, a store focused on repurposing reclaimed items from throughout the region. It's a must see for the hands-on types!





MEETINGS

MAKE IT A MEMORABLE MEETING IN JAX

Jacksonville is a waterfront historic yet innovative meetings destination experiencing a major revival. Come take advantage of our competitive rates, endless miles of beaches, burst of local dining and cultural options, as well as some of the most unique coastal meetings venues in all of Florida.

The heart of Downtown is where Jacksonville's meetings scene flourishes. The historic Prime Osborn Convention Center offers more than 275,000 sq. ft. of modern and flexible space within a mile of four major riverfront convention hotels, plus the best dining, shopping, and nightlife options in Jacksonville. The city's Southside and Beaches neighborhoods also house dozens of value-packed properties. Jacksonville offers planners and groups 160 hotels and more than 19,000 hotel rooms.

Come discover why we are consistently voted a Top 50 Meetings Destination in the nation. Come Meet in Jax!

MEET BY THE WATER

With the largest shoreline in Florida and an average of 270 days of sunshine, Jacksonville provides the opportunity to meet by the water in Downtown by the St. Johns River or at the Beaches along the Atlantic Ocean in beautiful, historic, flexible and state-of-the-art venues that cannot be found in any other city in the state. The urban core offers newly renovated convention hotels, the historic Prime Osborn Convention Center and the convenience of walking or taking city transportation—the Skyway or bus—from your meeting location to museums, restaurants and nightlife. At the Beaches, cutting-edge meeting facilities and resorts blend into the laid-back vibe of the unique coastal communities. The oceanfront location offers opportunities for unique team-building activities and post-meeting events, from guided boat or kayak tours on the ocean to golf games and special occasion dinners. Transportation can be easily arranged to take groups from the Beaches into the city's center, St. Johns Town Center area and other popular sites in Jacksonville.

MILITARY REUNIONS

Jacksonville is honored to be home to the fourth largest concentration of military personnel in the nation and is very proud of that fact. Military groups visiting Jacksonville for their conventions and reunions have access to a large network of military installations including Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Naval Station Mayport, Kings Bay Naval Base, Camp Blanding Joint Training Center, Naval Aviation Depot Jacksonville and Marine Corps Blount Island Command.

MEDICAL MEETINGS

Jax is the Southeast's destination for health and wellness. More than 20 top medical facilities provide expertise and cutting-edge treatments to patients from around the globe. The Mayo Clinic, the UF Health Proton Therapy Institute and Wolfson's Children Hospital are all located in Jacksonville and are a great resource for medical groups and organizations holding their events here.

MEET WHERE THE PROS PLAY

Jacksonville is home to some of the best sporting facilities in the world and they are the ideal spot for an over-the-top, unforgettable meetings experience. TIAA Bank Field, voted one of the best fan experiences in the NFL, has more than 200,000 square feet of outdoor and indoor meeting space, including private suites, patio decks, 2 pools and cabanas. Outside the stadium, Daily's Place amphitheater has capacity for 5,500 under an iconic, modern structure fit for the grandest of all events. The Jacksonville Vystar Veterans Memorial can be transformed into an ice rink, tennis court, concert hall or circus, while the 121 Financial Ballpark at the Baseball Grounds of Jacksonville offers renovated private rooms for large parties and events.

MULTICULTURAL HERITAGE

Northeast Florida is alive with cultural attractions and festivals. Jacksonville's African American roots are deep, with dozens of stops on the Florida African American Heritage Trail located throughout the city including Kingsley Plantation, Norman Studios and The Ritz Theater and Museum, an African American Museum located in an area once known as the "Harlem of the South." Jacksonville is also home to one of the largest Middle Eastern populations in the nation and a large Hispanic community.

VISIT JACKSONVILLE'S SALES & DESTINATION EXPERIENCE TEAM

Let the Visit Jacksonville Sales & Destination Experience team assist you in planning your Jacksonville meeting. They are dedicated professionals that know every single venue, hotel and off-site location to satisfy all your needs. Connect with them at www.meetinjax.com.



WHERE TO STAY

Luxurious (yet never pretentious) oceanfront resorts, full-service riverfront hotels, charming beachside inns, quaint local B&B's and family-friendly suites: Jacksonville has them all waiting for you. With more than 160 hotel choices, visitors can find their ideal home-away-from-home whether they are traveling alone, with family, for work or leisure. Best of all, these quality accommodations are owned and operated by some of the best hoteliers and innkeepers in the business. Location, excellent service and some of the best competitive rates in all of Florida are the top attributes that visitors can expect to find.



GETTING HERE

IT'S EASY TO GET HERE! PERFECTLY LOCATED IN NORTHEAST FLORIDA, TRAVELING TO JACKSONVILLE IS QUICK AND EASY.

AT THE CROSSROADS

Getting to Jacksonville by car couldn't be easier. In fact, the city is situated at the intersection of I-10, one of the nation's most popular east-west thoroughfares, and I-95, the primary interstate highway along America's East Coast. When visitors arrive, they can use a sophisticated highway system to easily drive throughout the area. Jacksonville is the largest city by land mass in the continental United States, but it's easy to navigate via four major U.S. highways: U.S. 1, U.S. 17, U.S. 90 and U.S. 301. Plus, Highway 295 circles the city and makes travel quick and convenient, especially to and from the beaches.

JUST WING IT

Just 15 minutes from Downtown, Jacksonville International Airport (JAX) was listed as one of the best airports in North America when it comes to customer service. JIA was tied for first with two other airports in the Airport Service Quality Award by the Airports Council International. JAX provides non-stop flights to more than 35 major U.S. cities and 150 daily arrivals and departures on all major domestic air carriers and a network of regional carriers. Enjoy a full-service terminal building and outstanding ground transportation options. The airport offers comforts like free Wi-Fi, rocking chairs, live music, an art gallery and a wide array of shopping and dining options.

Many regional air carriers have added service out of Jacksonville, expanding flight service to popular cities in the United States.

Carriers servicing Jacksonville International Airport include Air Canada, American, Allegiant, Breeze, Delta, Frontier, JetBlue, Silver, Southwest, Sun Country and United Airlines. Various charter flights also operate into JAX. Once visitors land in Jacksonville, a variety of rental car services, taxis, and airport shuttles ensures that guests will easily arrive at their hotel or destination.



LET'S HIT THE RAILS

Daily railroad passenger service to and from Jacksonville is provided by Amtrak connecting the city with all other locations in the Amtrak system. The Jacksonville Amtrak station is located 20 minutes north of downtown, on the city's Northside.





DINING

Fresh seafood, southern flavors, local ingredients, and decorated chefs all come together in Jacksonville to create an innovative and delicious food scene unlike anywhere else in Florida. Since eating is the one thing you must do while traveling, Jacksonville's dining scene will no doubt be one of the best parts of your visit.

Jacksonville's unique flavors are a melting pot of cultures and tastes, pioneered by local award-winning chefs who have been nationally and internationally trained. Whatever you're craving, you will find the perfect restaurant for you in Jax. From elegant bistros to popular chains, casual waterfront fish camps and everything in-between, Jacksonville's food scene is an eclectic hybrid of inspired casual elegance and classic southern comfort - no jacket required.

MAYPORT SHRIMP

The local culinary seafood staple is the Mayport shrimp, caught at the historic Mayport Village by generations of Jacksonville shrimpers. Enjoy it while trying the local version of shrimp and grits, fried shrimp baskets, shrimp dip and shrimp po'boys. Ask for it at fish camps, taco joints, food trucks and fine dining bistros across the city including Safe Harbor Seafood, North Beach Fish Camp, Restaurant Orsay, Singleton's Seafood Shack, Sliders Oyster Bar and The Local. Download our Mayport Shrimp Passport using the QR code and make your way through the city, enjoying a variety of shrimp along the way.



ROOFTOP AND WATERFRONT DINING

Looking for delicious cuisine and a breathtaking view? Jacksonville is home to nearly a dozen establishments offering a great meal with a scenic view. For ocean views, check out Casa Marina Hotel & Restaurant, O-Ku and Coop 303. If you prefer the city skyline or river view, try River & Post, Estrella Cocina, Black Sheep, Cowford Chophouse, Intuition Ale Works, Burrito Gallery in Brooklyn, or Hoptinger Bier Garden in Five Points. For inland water views, visit Palms Fish Camp, Dockside Seafood, Wicked Barrel, Clark's Fish Camp or Julington Creek Fish Camp.

FARM TO TABLE

Chefs in Jacksonville take farm to table seriously, offering an assortment of fresh ingredients for diners to truly experience a taste of Jacksonville. Congaree and Penn is a restaurant, farm, venue and storefront

producing grits, brown and white rice, jelly, pecan oil and honey to supplies several local restaurants. Prati Italia serves a sustainably sourced menu with the best available ingredients. Jax Bread Co. is a traditional artisan bread bakery offering breads, pastries, sandwiches and more made with simple ingredients and no added preservatives or additives.

A FRESH CUP OF COFFEE

Coffee in Jacksonville means more than the Maxwell House coffee processing plant Downtown, which is the last remaining in the U.S. The city is home to several local coffee shops roasting and serving fresh grounds. At the beaches, stop by Southern Grounds, Sago Coffee, Show Pigeon Coffee or Bold Bean. In the Downtown area, try Crazy Beans Coffee, Urban Grind or Back to the Grind. Murray Hill is home to Vagabond Coffee Co., the Flamingo and Silver Cow. San Marco features Setlan Coffee Co., Kava & Company and Southern Grounds. For an extra shot of feel good, try Social Grounds Coffee Company in Springfield. The shop sources the best coffee from around the world to roast it in-house and works with the city of Jacksonville to employ and empower homeless veterans.

A SWEET TREAT

Don't forget about dessert. If you're looking for something sweet, you'll find plenty of mouth-watering options throughout Jacksonville. Cool off with something frozen from Dreamette in Murray Hill, Springfield or San Marco, Mayday in Jacksonville Beach, San Marco, Brooklyn or the Northside, Springfield Scoops or Pelican's SnoBalls. Prefer baked goods? Try 1748 Bakehouse, Sweet Theory Baking Co., Mixed Fillings Pie Shop, Alleycakes Bakery or Amaretti Desserts.

Renowned and Award-Winning Chefs
Who is behind that mouthwatering dish you just ate? Jacksonville is home to some of the country's most renowned, award-winning chefs. General Mills' Neighborhood to Nation contest winner chef Dennis Chan's award-winning Blue Bamboo Canton Bistro offers Cantonese comfort food, including dim sum. Former Top Chef contestant Kenny Gilbert's Silkies Chicken and Champagne Bar features inventive fried chicken, biscuits and cocktails. Two-time James Beard Best Chef South nominee chef Tom Gray's Prati Italia serves handmade Italian dishes. Chopped Sweets champion pastry chef Rebecca Reed's delectable sweets can be found at Restaurant Orsay, Black Sheep and Bellweather.



NIGHTLIFE

Vibrant. Fun. Eclectic. Casual. That's what you can expect when the sun goes down in Jax. With Florida's youngest population and an innovative spirit that can be felt throughout the city, Jacksonville delivers when it's time to enjoy a night out.

Whether you are looking to dance the night away, enjoy a local craft beer, chill with a craft cocktail by the water or bar hop with your crew, Jacksonville's nightlife scene is filled with unique lounges, bars, tap rooms, pubs, rooftop bars and live music venues for every taste, and every level of fun to make your visit an unforgettable one.

So, get dressed up, or dress down - Jax tends to be a pretty casual city - and relax as you venture out to enjoy Jax after dark!

HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOODS/MODERN FUN

Get the night started at one of Jacksonville's charming neighborhood squares and active main streets. Mingle with the locals and get an authentic Jacksonville experience when you hit hotspots in the San Marco Square, at the eclectic Five Points area in the Riverside Avondale Historic District, at the Elbow in Downtown, Edgewood Avenue in Murray Hill and on Main Street in Springfield. Visit craft breweries with impressive tap rooms, craft cocktail lounges with locally sourced ingredients, beautiful restaurants with international wine lists, cool bars with great drinks and even better DJ's, and rooftop bars that overlook the beautiful St. Johns River. All these fun spots are found within the vibrant historic neighborhoods of Jacksonville. What's even better, some food trucks, restaurants and bars offer delicious snacks or even full meals after hours when your new favorite nightlife hotspots have closed.

CRAFT COCKTAILS

Fresh ingredients + local spirits + talented mixologist = Jacksonville's cocktail scene! Sip on a delicious classic or creative new cocktail made with the freshest ingredients in the area and mixed with locally made shrubs and spirits by some of the region's best distilleries including Grey Matter Distillery, Manifest Distilling, Burlock and Barrell, Four Fathers Distillery, and Citrus Distillers. Cocktail lounges, rooftop bars and top local restaurants use only the best local and national brands to help you unwind after a long day of exploring Jacksonville!

BEACH BARS

Enjoy the ocean breeze as you bar hop or enjoy a refreshing cocktail. A night or afternoon out at the beaches is filled with fun under the sun with a relaxed, cool, and up-for-anything vibe. Dress up for beach clubs or slide on your flip flops after a day on the sand and head to one of the oceanfront beach bars for a delicious tropical drink. Just remember, Jacksonville's nightlife ends at 2 a.m., but the memories last forever!

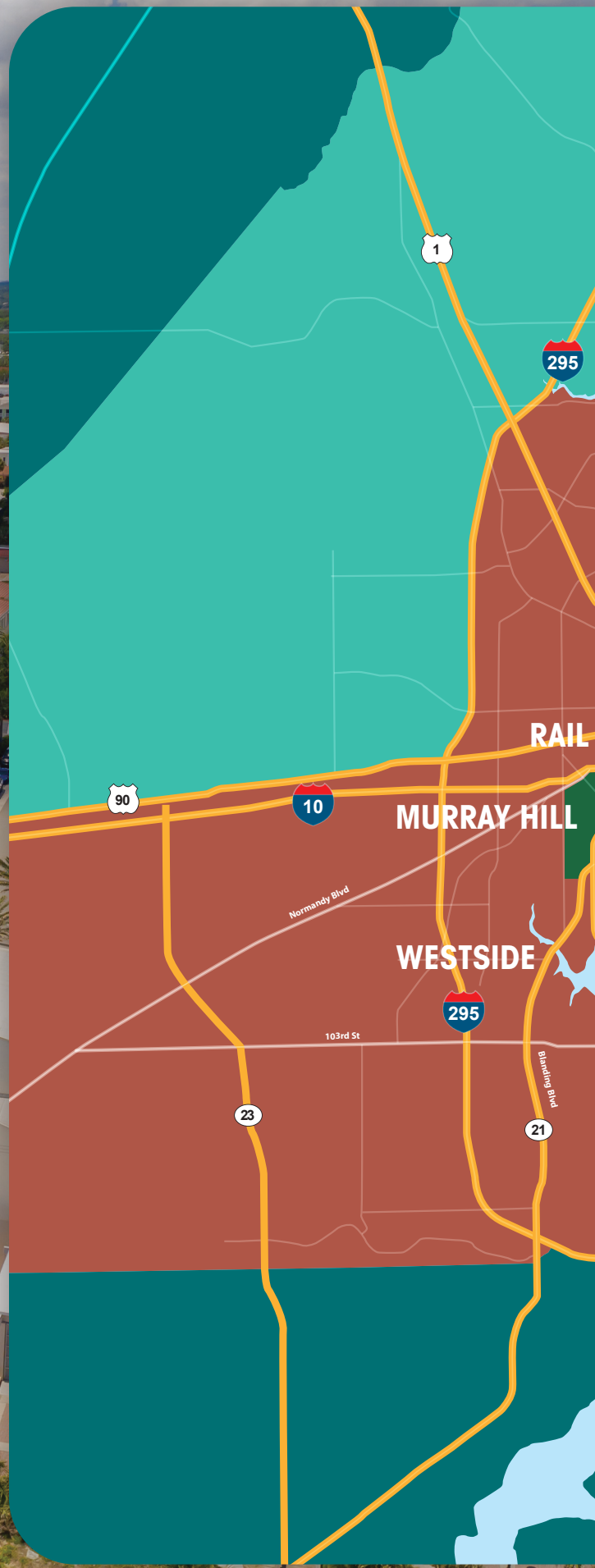
THE JAX ALE TRAIL

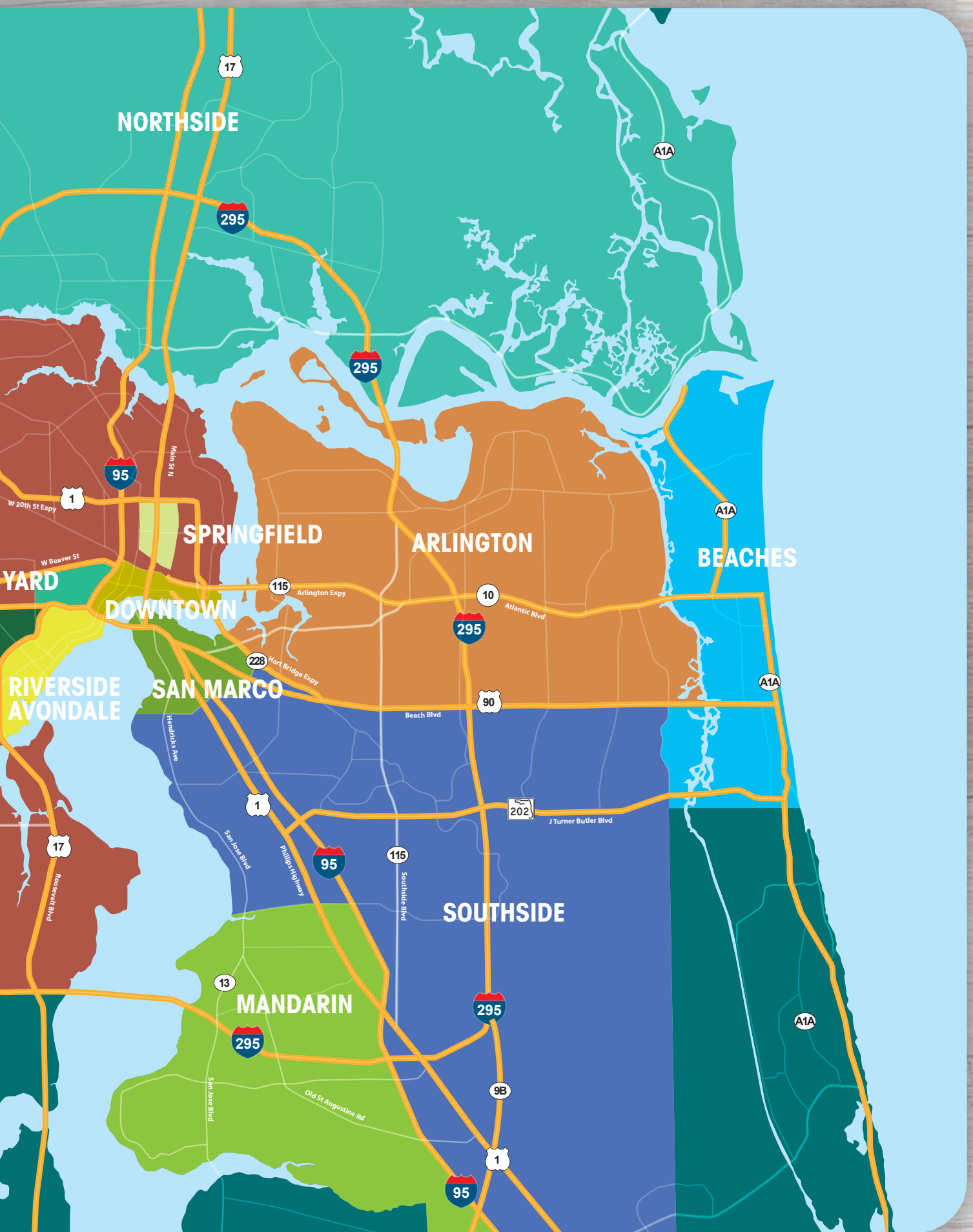
Enjoy some of the best brews in the state of Florida right here in Jacksonville! Conveniently organized into a self-guided tour, Jacksonville's craft breweries are innovative, with extensive menus and cool taprooms that are super family-friendly. Pick up a craft beer passport and venture out to drink your trail off at one of our award-winning local breweries. Jacksonville also has an extensive network of craft beer bottle shops and restaurants brewing their own beers. For more information go to jaxaletrail.com.





visit
Jacksonville
and the Beaches





ACCESSIBLE JACKSONVILLE

Jacksonville is committed to fostering a welcoming, accessible experience for visitors with disabilities. With accessible hotels, museums, attractions, parks, restaurants and more, travelers of all abilities have options in Jacksonville.

OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

Jacksonville boasts the largest urban park system in the nation with 80,000 acres of parks, gardens and arboreturns. Travelers with disabilities will find many outdoor activities are open to them, offering opportunity for exploration and adventure.

The City of Jacksonville's Disabled Services Division works closely with many local rehabilitation and non-profit agencies to provide adaptive recreation, including kayaking. The Parks & Recreation Division website, available at the QR code below, offers a directory that can be filtered for accessible amenities and wheelchair access.



IN ADDITION TO CITY PARKS:

- Paved pathways are available at Little Talbot Island and Big Talbot Island State Parks.
- Accessible walkways and trails, including a paved pathway, is available at Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens.
- The Jacksonville Baldwin Rail Trail offers a 12-foot wide paved trail.
- Beach wheelchairs are available at Atlantic Beach and Jacksonville Beach at no cost.

ATTRACTIONS

Many attractions offer accessible features including:

- Large print guides, pre-scheduled ASL services and touch tours for those who are blind or have low vision are available at The Cummer Museum & Gardens.
- iFLY Jacksonville features All Abilities Night the first Monday of every month from 5 to 8 p.m., offering individuals with physical or cognitive challenges the opportunity to indoor skydive.
- Weighted wraps, noise reducing headphones, a sensory map, pre-scheduled ASL services and raised versions of sky maps are a few accessible offerings at the Museum of Science and History (MOSH).
- Audio tours are available at Kingsley Plantation and Fort Caroline, both part of the Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve National Park.

SPECIAL EVENT VENUES

Jacksonville's special event venues, including 121 Financial Ballpark, Alhambra Theatre & Dining, Daily's Place, Florida Theatre, Jacksonville Performing Arts Center, VyStar Veterans Memorial Arena and TIAA Bank Field offer accessible accommodations. Please contact the individual venue for specific details.

MOTORIZED WHEELCHAIR WEEKEND ITINERARY

Visit Jacksonville Ambassador Steffi G. is a disability and inclusion advocate who loves the outdoors and adaptive fitness. She spent some time going to her favorite inclusive places throughout Jacksonville and put together a motorized wheelchair weekend itinerary, sharing everything from her hotel stay at One Ocean Resort to dining at Estrella Cocina to kayaking with Brooks Adaptive Recreation. Scan the QR code for the full itinerary.



VISITOR CENTERS

Jacksonville is a vibrant city with hundreds of must-see attractions and sites to experience. Visit Jacksonville's destination experts at the City's Visitor Centers will help you plan the perfect visit so you can see as many unforgettable spots as possible during your stay.

Call or connect with our Visitor Center experts online to get information prior to your visit. They can help you find the perfect hotel for your needs, help you book attraction visits and coordinate itineraries. Once in town, stop by one of our centers and learn about local deals and offers, get expert recommendations on top experiences and get help with any of your destination questions.

JACKSONVILLE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Baggage Claim Area
Jacksonville, FL
Phone: (904) 741-3044

VISIT JACKSONVILLE OFFICE

100 N. Laura St. Suite 120
Jacksonville, FL 32202
Phone: (800) 733-2668
(U.S. & Canada)
Fax: (904) 798-9104

BEACHES VISITOR CENTER

381 Beach Boulevard
Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250
Phone: (904) 242-0024

For hours of operation visit: visitjacksonville.com/travel-tools/visitor-centers
and visitflorida.com/more/visitor-and-tourism-services/welcome-centers



JACKSONVILLE'S MOBILE VISITOR CENTER

Be sure to look for Seymour Jax, Visit Jacksonville's Mobile Visitor Center, around town during your visit! Spot Seymour at Jacksonville's top events! Be sure to take a picture with Seymour Jax when you see him at local events, post and share using hashtag #onlyinjax.

For more information, contact the Destination Experience Team at
(800) 733-2668 or (904) 798-9111 or via e-mail at visitorinfo@visitjacksonville.com.



VISIT JACKSONVILLE OFFICE
100 North Laura St., Suite 120
Jacksonville, FL 32202
(904) 798-9111 (800) 733-2668
visitjacksonville.com



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